LISTING OF THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-11.   (Cancelled)

Claim 12.   (Previously presented)   A method of generating ascorbic acid, comprising:

a)   obtaining a recombinant yeast capable of converting an ascorbic acid precursor into ascorbic acid, wherein the yeast is functionally transformed with a coding region encoding L-galactose dehydrogenase (LGDH) enzyme having at least about 90% similarity with SEQ ID NO:11,

b)   culturing the recombinant yeast in a medium comprising an ascorbic acid precursor, thereby forming ascorbic acid, and

c)   isolating the ascorbic acid.

Claim 13.   (Previously presented)   A method of generating ascorbic acid, comprising:

a)   obtaining a recombinant yeast capable of converting an ascorbic acid precursor into ascorbic acid, wherein the yeast is functionally transformed with a coding region encoding L-galactose dehydrogenase (LGDH) enzyme having at least about 90% identity with SEQ ID NO:11,

b)   culturing the recombinant yeast in a medium comprising an ascorbic acid precursor, thereby forming ascorbic acid, and

c)   isolating the ascorbic acid.

Claim 14.   (Previously presented)   A method of generating ascorbic acid, comprising:

a)   obtaining a recombinant yeast capable of converting an ascorbic acid precursor into ascorbic acid, wherein the yeast is functionally transformed with a coding region encoding L-galactose dehydrogenase (LGDH) enzyme and the coding region encoding the LGDH enzyme has at least about 90% identity with SEQ ID NO:12,

b)   culturing the recombinant yeast in a medium comprising an ascorbic acid precursor, thereby forming ascorbic acid, and

c)   isolating the ascorbic acid.

Claims 15-40.   (Cancelled)